

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5343

S E C R E T NAIROBI 0542

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY AND SCHAUFLE FROM EDMONDSON

SUGGEST DEPT PASS LONDON FOR SEITZ, PRETORIA/CAPE TOWN,
LUSAKA, AND MAPUTO FTR AMBASSADORS ONLY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: RICHARD'S PLANS AS OF JANUARY 13

1. I SAW RICHARD, GRENNAN, AND MANSFIELD AT NOON TODAY,
RICHARD HAVING JUST RETURNED FROM HOUR-LONG INTERVIEW WITH
KENYA TV. THEY ARE AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON WHERE
FCO MEETING YESTERDAY PRODUCED A PAPER THAT WAS SUBMITTED
TO CROSLAND FOR APPROVAL TODAY. THEY HAVE BEEN TOLD PRIME
MINISTER CALLAGHAN ALSO WANTS TO SEE THE PAPER BEFORE IT
IS GIVEN TO THE NATIONALISTS, BUT RICHARD HAS CONFIRMED
TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT
(PF) THAT HE WILL BE COMING TO
MAPUTO TO MEET NKTMO AND MUGABE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 16.
THE PF HAS RESPONDED THROUGH BRITISH AMBASSADOR MAPUTO
THAT MEETING CANNOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL EVENING OF THAT DAY,
AT TIME TO BE CONFIRMED LATER.

2. RICHARD CURRENTLY PLANS TO FLY TO MBABANE AND OVER-
NIGHT THERE (JUST TO SEE THE PLACE) SATURDAY AND GO ON

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TO MAPUTO SUNDAY, ALTHOUGH HE COULD CONCEIVABLY FLY
DIRECT TO MAPUTO FROM NAIROBI IF APPOINTMENT CONTINUES
TO BE SET FOR EVENING. HE WOULD LIKE TO AVOID STAYING
OVERNIGHT IN MAPUTO SUNDAY, SO DEPENDING ON AIRPORT
CLOSING TIMES HE MAY FLY TO EITHER MBABANE (MANZINI
AIRPORT), DURBAN, OR PRETORIA. IF OVERNIGHT STOP UN-
AVOIDABLE, HE MAY GO TO MBABANE MONDAY MORNING, AS

GRENNAN BELIEVES THERE SHOULD BE A "PAUSE" BEFORE GOING ON TO SEE VORSTER IN CAPE TOWN, SHOULD THAT BE THEIR NEXT STOP. ANOTHER POSSIBILITY IS TO FLY FROM MAPUTO TO LUSAKA WHERE THEY COULD DELIVER COPIES OF WRITTEN PROPOSALS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF MUZEREWAZ AND SITHOLE. NOTING THAT KAUNDA WOULD BE AWAY, THEY THOUGHT THEY COULD TAKE SOME TIME TO SEE VICTORIA FALLS IF THEY NEEDED TO HAVE A TIME INTERVAL FOR INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON BEFORE SEEING VORSTER.

3. IN VIEW OF THEIR UNCERTAINTY ABOUT STOPS AFTER MAPUTO, I PLAN TO FLY TO PRETORIA TOMORROW, JAN. 14, ARRIVING JAN SMUTS ON KL 593 AT 1305, AND STAY IN TOUCH WITH BRITISH EMBASSY THERE REGARDING NEXT INTERCEPTION POINT. IF MEETING WITH PF SHOULD BE MOVED TO EARLIER HOUR, I MAY TRY TO MEET THEM THERE FOR EARLY READ-OUT. IF EVENING MEETING HOLDS, I WILL TRY TO POSITION MYSELF TO MEET THEM ON ARRIVAL AT THEIR NEXT STOP (MBABANE, DURBAN, OR PRETORIA) AND REPORT FROM THERE.

4. WITH REGARD TO THEIR WRITTEN PROPOSALS, I MADE CLEAR (PER STATE 6901) THAT DEPARTMENT WISHED TO SEE ANY DRAFT THEY INTENDED TO USE IN THEIR CONSULTATIONS AND SAID I WOULD APPRECIATE THEIR SHARING ANY ROUGH DRAFTS OR WORKING PAPERS THEY MIGHT HAVE. THEY SAID THEY WOULD PROVIDE COPY AS SOON AS RECEIVED AND WERE SURE FCO WOULD PROBABLY PASS COPY TO RAY SEITZ AS WELL.

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I DID NOT PRESS THEM BEYOND THIS AND DO NOT KNOW IF THEY MAY HAVE "UNAPPROVED" ROUGH DRAFT IN THEIR POSSESSION.

5. WITH REGARD TO CIRCULATING ANY NEW DRAFT, I VENTURED OPINION THAT FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS COULD REACT ADVERSELY IF PAPER GIVEN TO NATIONALISTS WERE NOT ALSO GIVEN TO THEM, ESPECIALLY IF COPY WERE GIVEN TO VORSTER, NOTING THAT PF WOULD SHARE THE PAPER ANYWAY AND FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS WOULD NOT BE DETERRED FROM COMMENTING ON PAPER NO MATTER HOW THEY GOT IT. RICHARD AND MANSFIELD SAW THE POINT. GRENNAN REPEATED THAT THEY WANTED TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE WITH THE NATIONALISTS RATHER THAN THE FRONTLINERS, BUT AGREED THE PAPER SHOULD NOT BE "WITHHELD" FROM THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS. MANSFIELD SUGGESTED THEY COULD HAVE THEIR AMBASSADOR IN MAPUTO AND THEIR HIGH COMMISSIONERS IN THE OTHER FRONTLINE CAPITALS DELIVER COPIES TO THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS A DAY OR SO AFTER THE NATIONALISTS WERE GIVEN THE PAPER. (THE HIGH COMMISSIONERS COULD MORE EASILY AVOID DIS-

CUSSION BY SAYING THEY WERE NOT AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS THE SUBSTANCE.) IN ANY EVENT, ALL THREE SHOWED APPRECIATION OF PROBLEMS THAT COULD BE CAUSED BY ANY APPROACH THAT MIGHT GIVE FRONTLINERS THE IMPRESSION THEY WERE BEING CUT OUT OF THE PROCESS.

6. I ASKED RICHARD WHAT HE HOPES TO GET FROM THE PF AND WHETHER HE THOUGHT HE COULD GET ANYTHING BEFORE THEY HAD TAKEN MORE TIME TO STUDY ANY WRITTEN PROPOSALS HE GAVE THEM. HE SAID HE WOULD PRESS VERY HARD FOR SOME KIND OF RESPONSE. AT THE VERY MINIMUM HE HOPED TO GET SOME SORT OF INDICATION THAT THE BRITISH PROPOSALS COULD FORM THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS. HE INTENDED TO PRESS THEM PRETTY HARD ON THE POINT THAT PRESIDENTS KAUNDA AND NYERERE BOTH SAID THAT THE PF WAS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE BUT THAT HE HAD SEEN NO REAL EVIDENCE OF THIS YET.

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UM COMMENT: WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SUNDAY IS ANYONE'S GUESS. PF COULD WELL ACCEPT RICHARD'S PAPER AND THEN DENOUNCE IT NEXT DAY TO THE PRESS. ON THE OTHER HAND, GIVEN FRONTLINE ASSURANCES THAT THE PF DOES WISH TO NEGOTIATE, THEY MAY GIVE RICHARD A MORE ENCOURAGING REPLY, OR AT LEAST PARTIALLY ENCOURAGING. RICHARD GIVES IMPRESSION THAT LONDON IS MONITORING HIS MISSION FAIRLY CLOSELY AND WILL WANT TO CONSIDER PF RESPONSE CAREFULLY BEFORE GICHARD GOES ON TO HIS NEXT SUBSTANTIVE APPOINTMENT, WHETHER WITH VORSTER OR SOMEWHERE ELSE.
MARSHALL

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